

**Building Successful Learners
Public Law 221**

George Bibich Elementary School

**14600 W. 81st Avenue
Dyer, Indiana 46311
219-322-1185**

Submitted: September, 2020

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PUBLIC LAW 221 School Improvement Committee 2019-2022

Kindergarten: Sheri Venturelli
Grade 1: Mary Gerlach
Grade 2: Joanne Pratt
Grade 3: Julie Crary
Grade 4: Michelle Snow
Reading Specialist: Nancy Mackowiak
School Service Provider: Samantha Mitchell
Dean of Students: Kim Hayes
Principal: Deedee Logan
Parent/Teacher: Caryn Cruz, Sarah Darnell
Parent: Amanda Ortega

PUBLIC LAW 221 Original Steering Committee

Kindergarten: Karen Kinney
Grade 1: Mary Gatlin
Grade 2: Jeff Brooks
Grade 3: Jane Holmes, Caryn Walczak, Phyllis Hegyi
Grade 4: Vickie Kendall
Grade 5: Sue Gatto
Specials: Nancy Wilk
Special Education: Angie Milcarek
Support Staff: Sara Antkowiak
Attending Child/Parent Representative: Renee Bova
Non-Attending Child/Parent Representative: Pat Patena
Business Representative: Don Tallent
Community Representative: Rev. Mark Wilkins

It is the vision of the school community of Bibich Elementary that our school...

- develops an appreciation and enthusiasm for lifelong learning for students and staff.
- nurtures creative problem solving.
- guides students to be responsible, productive and caring members of society.
- supports students as active, self-motivated participants in their learning.
- develop student/adult communication skills.
- provides a safe, caring environment.
- uses technology as a learning tool and as a community resource.
- has a staff that works collaboratively across grade levels to ensure students' academic/emotional success.
- includes parents and community members as partners in the learning process.
- develops and employs intervention strategies to help ensure student success.
- promotes health and wellness.
- meets the diverse needs of its population.

Lake Central/Bibich Mission Statement . . .

Lake Central School Corporation, as a family, community, and school partnership, is to ensure that each student becomes a self-directed learner and a contributing responsible citizen through an instructional delivery system that engages students in achieving their personal best.

The beliefs of LCSC...

- Each individual has dignity and worth.
- Students are our number one priority.
- People are responsible for their actions.
- Excellence will only be achieved through continuous improvement.
- Everyone can learn.
- People learn in different ways and at different rates.
- Teachers are critically important in every student's education.
- Education is the responsibility of the students, staff, families and the entire community.
- School provides a foundation for a lifetime of learning.
- A positive school environment is essential for learning.
- Success builds self-confidence.
- Educated and involved citizens are necessary to sustain a democratic society.

Our school

Bibich Elementary School is part of the Lake Central School Corporation and is located at 14600 W. 81st Avenue in Dyer, Indiana. The school is near the Illinois state line and 15 miles south of Lake Michigan. Chicago is only 30 miles to the northwest. Bibich School enjoys the benefit of being located in an area that provides a natural setting of trees and wildlife, although, this is rapidly changing into new housing developments.

Our students are from the south side of Dyer. There are two elementary schools and one middle school in Dyer. Bibich is one of six elementary schools in our school corporation. In addition to six elementary schools, Lake Central Corporation has three middle schools, and a 9-12 grade configured high school. The total pupil enrollment of Lake Central School Corporation is 9,645 students.

The student population of Bibich Elementary School has increased since the original building of 22 rooms was constructed in 1978. To meet the needs of our growing community, 8 additional classrooms, a cafeteria, and a computer lab were added in 1991. A second computer lab was added in 2011.

Our current enrollment as of September 30, 2020 is:

Kindergarten:	81
1st grade:	120
2nd grade:	88
3rd grade:	91
4th grade:	<u>96</u>
Total:	476

Bibich's past years of student enrollment:

	K	1	2	3	4	Total
09-10	106	102	105	121	118	552
10-11	92	130	102	108	115	547
11-12	83	101	130	98	96	508
12-13	96	92	102	136	92	518
13-14	86	90	98	101	133	508
14-15	75	79	91	98	110	453
15-16	99	70	82	96	97	444
16-17	85	94	70	78	98	425
17-18	83	82	93	70	82	410
18-19	89	88	88	100	75	440
19-20	108	93	93	95	107	496
20-21	81	120	88	91	96	476

Our students

As of September 2020 our student population is predominantly White. Data gathered from parents at registration show an **ethnic diversity** that includes:

Asian	Hispanic	American Indian
Black	Multi Racial	Native Amer./Other Pacific Islander

The language minority report from September 2019 indicates that Bibich students have **primary language experiences** in the following languages:

*qualified for ELL services

*Spanish *Serbian *Croatian *Polish *Punjabi *Chinese Farsi Greek Hindi
Macedonian Tagalog

Longitudinal Study of Language Minority Students

	9-10	10-11	11- 12	12- 13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
# of students	24	18	15	20	13	11	12	11	15	13	20
% of population	4.3%	3.3%	3%	3.8%	2.6%	2.4%	2.7%	2.6%	3.6%	2.6%	3.7%

Longitudinal Study of Ethnicity

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
% of population	19.6%	18.8%	19.1%	19.2%	21.1%	21.9%	24.5%	25.5%	28.7%	29.1%	30.5%

Free and reduced lunch

Bibich students are offered lunch and breakfast daily and are charged according to their household income. From a historical analysis, there is an increase in the percent of students qualifying for free and/or reduced lunches.

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
# of students	68	76	75	79	65	65	50	80	93	104	117
% of population	12.3	13.9	14.8	15.1	12.8	14.4	11.6	17.6	20.6	21.1	21.4

Special Education Population

Students at Bibich Elementary School receive special education services through Special Education.

	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
# of students	88	84	95	70	70	68	53	49	65	51	102	114
% of population	15.7	15.2	17.4	13.8	13.4	13.4	11.7	11.3	14.3	12.4	20.7	20.8
Student enrollment	561	552	547	508	522	508	453	444	455	410	440	*547

*includes EC-grade 4

The number of students with disabilities according to designations in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are:

	SLD	Mi	Autism	OHI	EH	HI	VI	OI	Speech	TB I	MH	MO	DD
2012-2013	4	2	9	1	0	0	0	1	59	0	1	0	

Percentage	.76%	.38%	1.7%	.2%				.2%	11.3%		.2%		
Enrollment	522												
2013-2014	9	2	8	3	1	1	0	0	41	0	0	0	
Percentage	1.7%	.39%	1.5%	.59%	.19%	.19%			8.0%				
Enrollment	508												
2014-2015	10	1	5	6	1	2	0	0	48	0	0	0	
Percentage	2.2%	.22%	1.1%	1.3%	.22%	.44%			10.5%				
Enrollment	453												
2015-2016	7	1	3	5	1	1	0	0	50	0	0	0	
Percentage	1.5%	.23%	.68%	1.1%	.23%	.23%			11.3%				
Enrollment	444												
2016-2017	10	0	2	5	0	1	0	1	77	0	0	0	
Percentage	2.3%		.47%	1.1%		1.1%		1.1%	18.1%				
Enrollment	425												
2017-2018	11	1	5	4	2	1	0	1	40	0	0	0	
Percentage	2.7%	.25%	1.2%	1%	.49%	.25%		.25%	9.8%				
Enrollment	410												
2018-2019	11	1	8	4	1	1	0	1	66	0	0	0	
Percentage	2.5	.22%	1.81	.91%	.22%	.22%		.22%	15%				
Enrollment	440												
2019-2020	12	0	8	7	3	0	0	1	68	0	0	0	19
Percentage	2.19		1.46	1.27	.54			.18	12.43				3.47
Enrollment	547												

Attendance Rate

The staff at Bibich Elementary School recognizes the importance of students attending school. The staff encourages students to attend school through various incentive programs, including: the announcement over the PA system of classes with perfect attendance; recognition of individual perfect attendance at the conclusion of each 9 weeks through certificates, names printed in the school's weekly memo to parents, and free meal certificates to local restaurants, if available.

Graphs of student attendance, based on classroom performances, are shared with students, staff, and members of our school community through our weekly memo to parents.

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
Bibich	96.9	96.9	97.1	96.8	97.3	96.9	96.7	96.3	96.5	96.6	n/a
State Avg.	95.8	95.9	96.1	95.8	96.1	95.8	95.8	95.7	n/a	n/a	n.a

Mobility

Bibich students have not all been in attendance since kindergarten. We receive some students moving across the state line from Illinois. The percentage of new students to Lake Central School Corporation is noteworthy; however, mobility has a limited impact at Bibich.

Our staff

The staff at Bibich Elementary School is ever-changing and adjusting to the needs of our school community. See below for a more complete breakdown. In addition to our classroom teachers, our students receive instruction from licensed teachers in art, music, physical education, technology, communication disorder, learning disabilities, mild cognitive disabilities, autism, and physical impairment. Most of our special education students are included in the general education classroom through our successful inclusion (LRE) program. Our resource center (library) is well organized and run efficiently by our support staff.

Number of Staff

	Full time	Part time/ Shared
Principal	1	
Dean of Students		1
Facility Engineer (custodians)	5	
Classroom Teachers	22	
Preschool Teacher	2	
Fine Arts and Physical Education Teachers		4
Technology Teacher	1	
Food Service	1	3
School Service Provider	1	
Paraprofessionals	21	
Library	1	
Nurse	1	
Office	2	
Reading Specialist	1	
Special Education Teachers	2	
Speech Language Pathologist	2	

The staff at Bibich Elementary School is an experienced and well-trained staff. We have used, and will continue to refine, an interview process that includes staff members in the selection process. The interview team looks for a candidate with a personality and instructional style that

enhances the grade level team of teachers, the culture of the building, and meets the needs of our students.

Beginning level teachers are partnered with a mentor teacher. This mentoring includes informal discussions with other staff members; formal discussions between the beginning teacher, the mentor teacher, and the building principal; and released time to allow for observations of other teachers. The beginning teacher attends an in-service training at the beginning of the school year. Teachers transferring to the building from other buildings work closely with their grade level team teachers.

The staff at Bibich Elementary School recognizes the importance of providing and sustaining long-term professional growth. Our goals and vision continue to be the driving force behind our professional development. The staff at Bibich Elementary School has experienced professional growth through attendance at seminars, workshops, and in-services. Additionally, visitations to various educational sites are part of their professional development opportunities for teachers.

Staff development opportunities over the past years have included:

Reading Strategies	Brain Based Research with Dr. Pat Wolf
NCTM Conference	C.L.A.S.S. trainings
Integrating Curriculum	Northwest Indiana Writer's Consortium
Web Page Design	Literacy workshop with Movement, Art, and Music
Otter Creek Institute	Gifted Talented Staff Conference
Integrating Curriculum	Annual Mtg. Of Board Certified Teachers
Jeopardy/Technology	Integrating Art, Music, and Literacy
Strategic Planning for Lake Central	Managing angry students
Interactive Writing	Indiana Teachers of Writing
United Streaming Discovery Video	Music Education Conference
Workshop	Differentiated Curriculum Training (PUC)
Standard Based Activities & Assessments	Phonemic Sequencing
DIBELS Assessment	Wilson Reading Program
Educators Training Network	Mastery Learning
Read – Motivating Your Students	Training with PUC professor on in-service for vocabulary and literature Circles
Strategies that proficient readers use	Grade Quick
Literature Workshop	Partnership with Purdue Calumet
Reading Comprehensive Workshop	Differentiated Curriculum with Cheryl Bell
Power Writing Workshop	DIBELS Workshop
Strategies from NCTM trained teacher, Jean Wilson	Indiana Reading Assessment (IRA)
Foundations	Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)
Related technology sessions, i.e., Internet, Email, Web searches,	FAME teacher workshop
Classroom designed websites	CRISS – All trained but Full Day Kindergarten
Reading Recovery Model	Response to Instruction
Guided Reading Model	DRA Training
Four Blocks Model	
Building Blocks Model	

PM Training
 Technology – grade level web sites
 National Association of Science Teachers
 Conference
 Purdue Math Conference
 Tier 2 Intervention Team Meetings
 Grade 4 Task Force Meeting
 Team Building Seminar
 ISLAND
 School Safety Specialist Academy
 Comprehension Instruction
 Network Summit on Reading
 Webinars in many curricular areas
 Autism Workshops
 Crisis Prevention Intervention Training
 (CPI)
 High Ability Training
 Study Island Training
 CHAMPS (Positive Behavior Support)
 PASS
 Smart Board Training
 RDS online grading program
 Read 180
 Indiana IEP
 AIMSWEB
 Edmark
 My Reading Coach (FLRT, RAPS 360)
 Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)
 ELL
 Canvas
 Neuroscience with Dr. Lori Desautels
 Skyward
 Standard for Success
 IL Kindergarten Conference
 School Safety Training
 Jr. Great Books Training
 Next Step Guided Reading Training
 SEL Training
 Screencastify
 Clever

MClass, BURST
 NAGC Conference
 IAG Conference
 Tim Shanahan
 My Big Campus
 Dreambox
 Matrix
 Intranet
 Track It
 Acuity
 Tracy Inman-Differentiating Instruction
 Virginia McClain-Math Complexity
 Schauna Findlay-Relue-Language
 Complexity
 GCN Tutorials
 Kristina Smekens
 Think Central
 Bully Training
 Google Calendar Model
 Google Apps for Educators
 2Know Responders
 Text Complexity
 Common Core Shifts
 CCSS Reading Foundational Skills
 Close Reading
 RISE/STAGES
 Mobi Training
 NCTM Math
 Pivot
 The Book Whisperer
 Dr. Cathy Fosnot Inquiry Math Units
 Foss Science
 Greg Tang Math
 Department of Child Services
 Lucy Calkins
 Words Their Way Training
 Educational Neuroscience Training
 Live Streaming
 Seesaw
 Zoom/Google Meets

It is common for staff members to spend several days each year, outside of teacher contracted time, in training sessions.

The principal and teachers work closely with Purdue University Northwest; Calumet College of St. Joseph; Valparaiso University; Indiana University Bloomington; and Indiana University Northwest campus to place student teachers in our school. The teachers at Bibich including

general education, special education, and teachers in specialized areas, may be host teachers for teacher candidates from these universities.

During the 2009-2013 school years, Bibich was recognized as a CRISS demonstration school site. The League Grant and Generation On Grants were received.

During the 2010-2017 school years Bibich and the Lake Central Technology Fund installed SmartBoards in every kindergarten and first grade classroom. They installed Mobis in every 2nd – 4th grade classroom and then provided extensive integration training on all new tools for the classroom. Mobis have since been replaced with SmartBoards/Smart TVs. In addition, Bibich used PTO funds to purchase iPads while the district funded iPad carts for the building. Bibich has 155 iPads and 175 Chromebooks for teachers to use in the classroom. In 2017, new microscopes were purchased for each grade level. Bibich regularly invites high school students in the cadet teacher program to work in our building.

During the 2017-2018 school year, Smart Boards/TVs were included in every classroom. Additional iPads and Chromebooks were added totaling 243 iPads and 245 Chromebooks.

During the 2018-2019 school year, iPads and Chromebooks were updated totaling 235 iPads and 275 Chromebooks.

During the 2019-2020 school year, iPads and Chromebooks were updated totaling 240 iPads and 420 Chromebooks.

Our accomplishments

Student success and achievement is always our main focus. Staff and parents continue to work together towards this endeavor. Bibich students have been successful on state ISTEP tests. Both high student scores on ISTEP/ILEARN and a high percentage of students meeting the essential skills have contributed to our school's distinction of being named an Indiana Four Star school in past years as well as National Blue Ribbon status.

Four Star Rating 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016, 2014-2015, 2012-2013, 2009-2010, 2006-2007, 2004-2005, 2002-2003, 2000-2001, 1998-1999, 1997-1998, 1996-1997, 1995-1996, 1993-1994, 1992-1993

National Blue Ribbon School 2018

Additionally, in past years, we have been recognized with School Improvement Awards. We have been able to maintain our students' achievement in this range by continually reviewing our curriculum, special programs and instructional practices. This review assures that we meet the needs of all of our students.

In March, 2008, Bibich Elementary School was recognized with the Healthy Hoosier Award, Silver Level, for schools with policies and educational programs in place that promote good

nutrition and increased physical activity among the students. In May, 2009, Bibich Elementary School was recognized with the Healthy Hoosier Award, Gold Level. In May, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, Bibich was recognized as an exemplary school.

During the 2009-2010 school year, Bibich was recognized with the Healthy Hoosier Award, Silver Level. We received a Legacy Environmental Grant that was used to install a walking path and outdoor tables and benches made from recycled materials. Bibich was recognized as an exemplary school.

During the 2010-2011 school year, Bibich was also awarded the Silver Level Healthy Hoosier Award.

During the 2017-2018 school year, Bibich was a National Blue Ribbon Nominee, the Spellbowl team was ranked 4th in the state, they received 2nd in the nation for the Word Masters Challenge, and a team participated in the Vex Robotics Competition for the first time.

During the 2018-2019 school year, Bibich received the 2018 National Blue Ribbon Award as one of only seven schools in the state of Indiana and one of only 349 schools in the United States to receive the honor. The Spellbowl team was ranked third in the state, they received 2nd in the nation for the Word Masters Challenge, and two teams participated in the Vex Robotics Competition.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Spellbowl team was ranked fifth in the state, they received 4th in the nation for the Word Masters Challenge, and two teams participated in the Vex Robotics Competition.

Our community

The town of Dyer was incorporated in 1910 to answer the need for housing in Lake County's growing industrial region. As of the 2010 census, Dyer has 16,390 residents. Over 37% of the adult population is high school graduates. More than 21% of the adult population has some college. It has remained basically residential with related businesses and commercial enterprises nearby. Businesses in the area are supportive of our school and very generous in making donations to the school. Local government and town service agencies share a wealth of time and information with us.

The town of Dyer is located thirty (30) miles southwest of Chicago and borders the Illinois state line. It encompasses a 5.7 square mile area.

Dyer celebrated its Centennial year in 2010.

Bibich School was involved in helping Dyer celebrate its centennial year. Students created illustrated reports on Dyer's history and were offered foods through the school food service that were mealtime staples 100 years ago.

Bibich students participate in partnering with the Dyer Historical Society to complete town projects. Student Council members participated in service learning projects with a local food pantry and nursing home.

In 2018, Bibich celebrated its 40 year anniversary with an alumni/family and staff spaghetti dinner as well as activities throughout the school year to promote the success of the first 40 years.

Our educational programs

Educational programs are currently used at Bibich to promote student mastery of the Indiana academic standards. Different grade levels use various programs.

The following instructional programs/strategies/resources reinforce the Language Arts curriculum at the various grade levels:

- Small group instruction to support Response to Instruction and Ability Grouped by Subject
- Literature Circle/Reader's Theatre
- District writing program based on Lucy Calkins Writing Model
- Young Authors writing project
- Computer resources (Max Write, Reading Eggs, Starfall, Web Quests, Safari Montage, Spelling City, Flipgrid, Kahoot, Quizzes)
- Next Step Guided Reading (students reading passages at their level)
- Research opportunities in the library and computer lab
- Integrated instruction in Art, Music, and PE classes
- Summer packets
- Sixty minute literacy block
- Differentiated Instruction
- The Daily Five
- Baggie Book Take Home Leveled Reader Program
- Project CRISS
- Poetry Anthology (to enhance fluency and vocabulary development)
- Integrated technology resources (Smart Boards, laptops, iPads, Chromebooks)
- Lucy Calkins
- Literacy Night
- Studies Weekly
- One School, One Book and One District, One Book
- Book Talks on the Morning Announcements
- Words Their Way

The following instructional programs/strategies/resources reinforce the Math curriculum at the various grade levels:

- Investigations Math (core program)
- Computer resources (math games)

- Touch Math (dots and circles used to teach addition, subtraction, and multiplication)
- Summer packets
- Differentiated Instruction
- Leveled Math Games
- Math manipulatives including Math Racks
- Math videos/songs to reinforce skills
- Integrating math skills through literature (Math Start)
- 60 Minute Math Block
- Dreambox
- Mentoring Mathematical Minds
- Dr. Cathy Fosnot Units
- Family Math Night
- Math Talks
- 3 Act Tasks
- 100/101/102 Days of School

The following instructional programs/strategies/resources are utilized at different grade levels to provide intervention and remediation:

- Reading Specialist
- Cluster grouping
- Leveled Literacy Intervention
- Wilson/Foundations Reading Program
- Special Education Staff/specialists for learning disabled, mild to moderate cognitively impaired, Autism Spectrum Disorder, emotionally disabled, visually impaired, orthopedically impaired, hearing impaired, and speech and language
- Before school tutoring
- Peer Tutoring
- Spell Bowl
- RAZ Kids
- Touch Math/Money
- Sensory Walk/Sensory Room
- ELL Instruction
- Reading A-Z
- Dreambox
- Mystery Science/Mystery Doug

The following instructional programs/strategies/resources support a safe, learning environment and are a part of the regular school day at Bibich School and are aligned with the Corporation behavior plan. These interventions include:

- Focus on life skills/character education and are aligned with the corporation behavior plan
- Discussion of the life skills on the morning announcements (Words of Wisdom)
- Frequent reference to the life skills by staff members

- Our School Service Provider meets with grade levels to discuss strategies to help our students deal with “everyday life” using Social Emotional Learning (SEL) groups on the topics of anti-bullying, growth mindset, feelings, friendship, conflict resolution, and manners.
- CHAMPS
- PASS
- Random Acts of Kindness tickets
- CPI
- Conduct strips, focus charts, Class Dojo
- Schoolwide Safety Plan
- Standard Response Protocol in conjunction with Dyer Police Department
- Fair Haven’s “Think First and Stay Safe” Program

The following programs/strategies/resources are utilized to provide enrichment opportunities for our students:

- Cluster Grouping
- High Ability Classes
- Art Club
- 4th Grade Choir
- 4th Grade Music Showcase
- Grade level performances
- Student Spotlight Night (Science Fair, Art Exhibits, Young Authors)
- Art Exhibit
- Differentiated curriculum design
- Student Council (grades 3 and 4)
- Spell Bowl (grade 4)
- Chess Club
- School wide special days (Earth Day, Dress up Day, Red, White & Blue for Veterans, College Go Week, Bullying/Drug Free Week, Hats on for Riley Hospital Week)
- Collaboration Days for students during specials
- Daily Announcement Team
- Daily Flag Patrol
- Bookstore Helpers
- Computer Helpers
- Teacher Helpers
- Kid’s Hope Mentor Program
- Rat project
- HS Choral and MS Band Department
- Super Heroes Social Skills
- 100/101/102 Days of School
- Grade 4 “Wax” Museum
- Robotics Club (grade 4)
- History of Dyer Presentations

- Book Talks
- Sign Language Club
- One School/District, One Book

Guest Presenters are brought in to reinforce and enhance curriculum. All programs are innovative, interactive and ever-changing.

- Kids on the Block
- Humane Society
- Career Week
- Firemen
- Policemen
- Veterinarian
- Dental Hygienist
- DARE Program
- Environmobile
- Nipsco Safety Village (Local power company teaches about electrical safety.)
- Lake County Soil and Water Conservation
- Lake County Conservation Department
- ProKids
- Historian presentation of the history of Dyer
- Mobile Dentist
- Farm Program
- LCSC Performing Arts Groups
- FAME Performers
- Kathy Powers from the Dyer Historical Society
- Brain Research Presentations
- Ready, Set, Jump
- Author Presentations
- Opera Singer
- LCHS German Club
- LCHS Choral Department
- LCHS Drama Department
- Kahler MS Band
- Junior Achievement
- Chinese Acrobats
- Cultural Dance Troop
- Brown's Music Bus
- Germ Lady
- Taltree
- Deaf (Interpreter/Teacher) Speakers

Wellness Programs are available to our students and staff and may change each year. All programs are innovative, interactive and ever-changing.

Programs include:

- District Wellness Initiatives
- Healthy tips for parents and staff
- Nutritional guidelines followed with an emphasis on healthy eating in the cafeteria
- Healthy snack breaks
- Jump Rope for Heart/Hoops for Heart
- Field Day
- School-wide Walk-a-thon
- Use of walking path
- The Great Grow-Along (Rats)
- Movement Breaks
- Staff Fitness
- Social Committee for staff support
- Weekly wellness schoolwide announcements
- Student Walking Club

Community Involvement is promoted through a variety of programs school wide in our community.

- PTO sponsored events/fundraisers
- Annual Veterans' Day program for community
- Community drive for donations to our soldiers
- Special Persons/Grandparents' Evening (art, science fair projects, student authored books and technology display, folk dancing)
- Pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Box Tops for Education
- Dollars for Scholars
- Student Council Service Learning projects (Riley Hospital fundraiser, food drive)
- FAME festival at Merrillville High School (community art display)
- Campbell Soup labels
- National Night Out with the Dyer Police
- One School, One Book and One District, One Book projects
- Family Math Night
- Eclipse Viewing Experience
- Mother's Day program
- Book Fair/Art Show of Student Work
- Kids Hope Parties (Students and Staff)
- Student Spotlight Night
- Plastic Cap Collection for benches

Field Trips are included to enhance the curriculum:

- Ballet
- Theater

- One room schoolhouse visit (1870's setting)
- Challenger Learning Center
- Pumpkin Farm
- Tri-Town Safety Village
- Kahler Grade 4 Transition Trip
- Bellaboos
- Elzinga Farm Plant Growth Trip
- Dyer Historical Museum

Staff communication/dialogue is embedded in our school culture:

- STAT (Student Teacher Assistance Team) meetings
- Weekly grade level team meetings
- In-service meetings
- Communication board
- Faculty meetings
- IAT (Intervention Assistance Team) meetings
- E Mails
- Voice Messages
- Staff newsletters
- Homework Hotlines
- School Messenger
- Skyward
- School/Teacher websites
- Canvas

Student and Parent Support

Student Support (Social/Emotional/Behavioral):

Kindergarten	Billy Bully
First Grade	Words Are Not for Hurting
Second Grade	The Juice Box Bully
Third Grade	Bullies are a Pain in the Brain
Fourth Grade:	Gum in My Hair
	Transition to Middle School Activities and Bowling "Mixer" (Spring)
Grade K-4:	Changing Families support program for students whose parents are divorced, separated or deceased.

New Student Welcome

Individual and small group counseling services for issues that impact school adjustment or school success.

Positive Behavior Supports: CHAMPS

Classroom presentations per teacher request

Social Skills Groups (with parent permission)

Disability Awareness during March

Skyward

College Go Week

Red Ribbon Week during October

Character Education:

Responsibility

Effort

Respect
Honesty
Caring

Parent Support:

Weekly Newsletter to families
Classroom-based newsletters (select teachers)
Skyward Access to assignment completion and grades
Access to Crisis Prevention & Intervention (CPI) training for parents through West Lake Cooperative Conferences
Back to School Night Informational Syllabus
School Messenger Phone/Email
Canvas
Family Math Night
ELL Family Night
ELL Translators
Bulldog's Bark HS Intern Newsletter

Kids Hope

Kids Hope USA is an innovative mentoring program that supports elementary school children. Mentors are trained and background checked to be paired with children at Bibich School. These children are identified by their teachers as possible candidates for the Kids Hope program. Mentors strive to benefit students as positive and patient role models. They give the one-on-one attention that these children need that the classroom teacher longs to give but is unable to provide. Each mentor comes to be with one child for one hour once a week during the school day. That mentor commits to that time all year for just that child. The program began during the 06/07 school year. All of their teachers believed it was a positive experience for their children. The program has continued, and students are placed based on available mentors.

Year	# of participants
2010-2011	25
2011-2012	17
2012-2013	19
2013-2014	19
2014-2015	16
2015-2016	18
2016-2017	14
2017-2018	19
2018-2019	18
2019-2020	17
2020-2021	suspended due to Covid

CRISS

Bibich teachers have participated since 2007-2008 in a professional development program designed to help students learn how to learn, becoming self-directed learners. This program is called CRISS (Creating Independence through Student-owned Strategies). Most of the

kindergarten through fourth grade teachers have been trained in CRISS. Staff continues with informal meetings several times each year to discuss strategies and implementation that has been incorporated into the grade level curriculum.

ELL

Lake Central has a diverse population of students that speak a wide range of languages from around the world. At the present time, there are 10 languages spoken by our ELL students. Often, but not always, students learning English as a second language need additional support to help them develop better speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. This support is provided by a licensed ELL teacher several days a week and daily by a paraprofessional. The goals of the program are listed below:

Goals:

Students will demonstrate a command of Standard English grammar and usage.

Listening: Students will listen to English from native speakers; their teachers and other media sources (news broadcasts, lectures, social conversation). They will also gain great exposure to English by listening to their friends.

Speaking: Students will practice speaking by conversing with one another, responding to questions, and offering comments on what they hear.

Reading: Students will be reading a variety of modified texts, including short stories, poetry, and expository writing. In both ELL and content classes, teachers will make efforts to support language learners through the use of peer buddies. As part of their reading development, students will be learning strategies to help them comprehend second language texts. Students will learn to use skills to help them interpret both fiction and non-fiction texts.

Writing: Students will write daily. Students in content classes may receive mini-lessons on grammar to support their understanding of grammatical structures identification and function. They will write on a variety of topics: personal narratives, descriptions, reports, poems, and reflections based on the literature. They will also have the opportunity to create their own works of creative fiction.

Description and location of curriculum

The members of the Bibich School Community strive to support students in their learning, in the development of citizenship, and personal growth; and to prepare students for the world of work. Because of this, the curriculum at Bibich School has the following components:

- the Indiana Academic Standards
- the vision and mission statement of the school
- the belief statements of the school district
- and the goals from Public Law 221

The foundation of the curriculum at Bibich is the **Indiana Academic Standards**. These standards are identified by the Indiana Department of Education and delineate expectations of the student learning. Staff members collaborate to ensure standards are met and exceeded.

Other variables impact our curriculum at Bibich Elementary School. The staff recognizes students have unique learning styles and abilities. As a result of this recognition, our daily

curriculum at Bibich School also reflects **goals from our Public Law 221 plan, and our school's vision statement.** Our vision statement was new to the school community in 2000 and was developed during our self-evaluation process in the Public Law 221 directive. This vision expands our curriculum to support students in development of citizenship, personal and intellectual growth, empathy for others, and preparation for entering the work force. Our vision statement is aligned with the mission statement and belief statements of the Lake Central School Corporation. Bibich Elementary School's vision statement was revisited in the fall of 2006.

Additionally, components of our vision statement are being discussed on the daily morning announcements by the building principal and members of the announcement team. It is the principal's hope that all students and staff will have an awareness of, and understanding of, the school's vision. If the vision of the school is well articulated and shared, then it is hoped that all members of the school community will have a similar direction for focus on our students. Through curriculum mapping, the staff regularly uses data to drive and adjust the curriculum to align with the state/core standards as the state continues to modify the expectations.

Meeting the Needs of Our Students

The school's curriculum provides for differing student academic needs through the use of various instructional strategies and with support staff to guide student learning. Our support program includes:

- Reading Specialist
- Social Worker/Counselor/School Service Provider
- the use of instructional assistants for support and re-teaching of skills to students in the classroom
- the use of inclusionary practices in the general education classrooms for students identified by guidelines of Article 7
- special education resource rooms are available throughout the day
- ELL Tutor and ELL Liaison Teacher
- Speech and language development support
- Cluster grouping for identified high ability students
- Paraprofessionals
- Before School Support (tutoring)
- Sensory Room
- Sensory Walk

Diverse learners have opportunities to learn challenging content and achieve at high levels. Our inclusionary practices place our diverse learners in the general education classroom. Children are immersed in our rich curriculum and pull-out programs are kept to a minimum. Direct instruction is provided for students in need of more intensive interventions. In these situations, our special education teacher communicates and plans collaboratively with the classroom teachers. Teachers work collaboratively across the district to create common curriculum, including assessments in the areas of language arts, math, science, writing, and high ability.

Language Arts

Our language arts curriculum is integrated throughout all areas of studies. The skills that are taught use developmentally appropriate methods throughout grades K-4. The language arts curriculum is centered around a print-rich environment for our students, as well as Words Their Way and Next Step Guided Reading programs. All elementary schools in the LCSC use Lucy Calkins, a research-based writing program that is directly aligned with state and local standards.

Math

The math curriculum includes units from Pearson Investigations along with Dreambox, Fosnot Mentoring Mathematical Minds (M3), Number Talks, and 3 Act Tasks. It uses an inquiry based approach and developmentally appropriate activities to help students learn math concepts and skills. The curriculum uses hands-on activities which enables the students to move from the concrete to abstract ideas in their problem solving. A math coach is available to facilitate lessons, provide virtual math videos, and co-teach.

Social Studies, Science, Health

Social studies, science, and health, are presented in unit studies. The thematic approach is used in these areas and Language Arts is integrated in these unit studies. Some thematic units include plants, animals, safety, dental health, seasons, holidays, pioneers, Native Americans, economics, Indiana history, government and the Civil War. Studies Weekly is used to enhance study of current events.

Music, Art, and Physical Education

Music, art, and physical education classes engage the multiple intelligences, provide differentiated curriculum for all learners and nurture the individual through student-driven and hands-on activities. The skills taught are developmentally and sequentially organized for instruction as well as thematic by design.

Technology

The elementary computers curriculum ensures that every student in the corporation is exposed to Learning.com's 12 Essentials of Digital Literacy. Digital literacy is the ability to understand, use and interact with technology, media and digital resources in real-world situations. Every interaction with the Internet or digital media requires some level of digital literacy. The 12 Essentials of Digital Literacy include the following:

- Computer Fundamentals
- Coding
- Keyboarding
- Online Safety & Digital Citizenship
- Computational Thinking
- Multimedia
- Internet Usage & Online Communication
- Visual Mapping
- Word Processing
- Spreadsheets

- Databases
- Presentations

All classes have access to iPads and/or Chromebooks. The elementary tech trainer coordinates and co-teaches lessons with the classroom teachers.

Life Skills Education

The lifelong guidelines of Truth, Trust, No Put Downs, Active listening, Personal best, and Respect are integrated throughout the school environment. The life skills of Integrity, Flexibility, Organization, Sense of Humor, Effort, Common Sense, Problem Solving, Responsibility, Patience, Friendship, Curiosity, Cooperation, Caring and Courage and used throughout the building. An anti-bullying message is presented at the beginning of each school year and reinforced throughout the school year. Members of the school community share these qualities using different mediums. Each morning, a Project Wisdom message is read over the announcements. Every Monday students and staff receive Mindful Minute messages. Every Tuesday the Bibich Bully Pledge is recited during the announcements. Every Wednesday includes a Wednesday Wellness Fun Fact. A “Buddy Bench” was added to the playground in 2015. We do monthly activities/school-wide initiatives to promote life skills.

Response to Instruction (RtI) Ability Grouped by Subject (AGS) An effective RtI tiered model was designed in 2006-07 by a team of staff members. Implementation began in grades K, 1 and 2 in the 2007-08 school year. We began the implementation of RtI for 3rd and 4th grade in the 2008-09 school year. The RtI model supports all students; thus it supports the Ability Group by Subject (AGS) requirement by the State Department of Education.

We continue to refine the process. Through the Student Teacher Assistance Team (STAT) and Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) process, we continue to identify and monitor student progress. This process has helped us to address students’ needs as they move through the tiers. The RTI model has also helped to reduce the number of students referred for special education.

Titles and descriptions of assessment instruments used

The Indiana Department of Education mandates ILEARN testing at grades 3 and 4. In addition, the following assessments are used:

General Assessments

- WIDA Access (ELL)
- ISTEP/ILEARN – Grades 3 and 4
- IREAD-Grade 3
- Cogat Test of Cognitive Abilities - administered in grades K, two and four to screen students for high ability identification
- IOWA Achievement Test- is used a further means of identification for high ability identification
- Dyslexia Screening K-2

Language Arts Assessments

- Beginning of School Year Baseline Tests
- Core Curriculum Weekly/Benchmark Tests in the five reading components
- Running Records
- Fluency Assessments
- Beginning Sounds Assessment
- 100 Sight Words (district)
- Alpha ID (district)
- Pivot
- AIMS Web
- Fresh/Cold Reads
- Writing Assessments
- CEPAs
- Rhyming

Bibich Elementary School Objectives

Objective 1: Each student at Bibich Elementary School will master academic grade level standards and show consistent growth in language arts as evidenced by state assessments. By the year 2022, the percentage of students meeting standards in language arts will increase from 71.9% to 78%:

Year 1, 2019-2020: from 71.9-74%

Year 2, 2020-2021: from 74-76%

Year 3, 2021-2022: from 76-78%

Objective 2: Each student at Bibich Elementary School will master academic grade level standards and show consistent growth in mathematics as evidenced by state assessments. By the year 2021, the percentage of students meeting standards in mathematics will increase from 71.9% to 78%:

Year 1, 2019-2020: from 71.9-74%

Year 2, 2020-2021: from 74-76%

Year 3, 2021-2022: from 76-78%

Objective 3: Each student at Bibich Elementary School will master academic grade level standards and show consistent growth in language arts and mathematics as evidenced by state assessments. By the year 2021, the percentage of students passing both language arts and mathematics will increase from 61.4-68%:

Year 1, 2019-2020: from 61.4-64%

Year 2, 2020-2021: from 64-66%

Year 3, 2021-2022: from 66-68%

Objective 4: We will continue to provide a safe and enriching learning environment supportive of students' attendance.

Year 1, 2019-2020: Maintain above state's attendance average.

Year 2, 2020-2021: Maintain above state's attendance average.

Year 3, 2021-2022: Maintain above state's attendance average.

ILEARN DATA 2018-2019 (*no 2019-2020 data due to Covid and cancellation of spring assessments)

	Grade 3	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grades 3-4	Grades 3-4	Grades 3-4
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	Science	ELA	Math	ELA and Math
Indiana	46.3	58.7	45.8	54.0	46.3			
LC	65.1	75.1	60.3	75.0	70.8			
Bibich	67.3	62.2	78.1	84.9	80.8	71.9	71.9	61.4